

Post-Visit Report for MOUNT RUSHMORE NATIONAL MEMORIAL Mammal Inventory, Bat Inventory – August 2004

Mount Rushmore National Memorial was surveyed for bats the nights of 14-16 August 2004. Mist nets were set across the beaver pond at the bottom of Starling Gulch. Surveyors were Dr. Cheryl A. Schmidt and Ms. Shauna R. Marquardt.

Mist Net Effort and Results

Mist nets were set over the beaver pond at the bottom of Starling Gulch.

Acoustic Surveys

Acoustic surveys were conducted at the beaver pond each night. Travel and search calls, as well as feeding buzzes, were recorded and will be analyzed this fall.

Other Observations

A very healthy and not overly aggressive striped skunk (*Mephitis mephitis*) insisted on inspecting the bat processing station on the night of 15 August 2004. This individual may have been a local pet as it checked out everything thrown at it to scare it away as though it might be a food item. Further, although provided ample opportunity, it did not even threaten to spray either the surveyors or their equipment; however, it did appear to relish the smell of Ms. Marquardt's boots and proceeded to rub its face all over them (Ms. Marquardt was wearing her waders at the time).

Future Work

Acoustic recordings will be statistically analyzed for assignment to species. The results will be included in the Final Report for the Mammal Inventory.

Fecal samples were collected whenever possible. Contents of the samples will be assigned to order where possible to establish baseline information on the diets of these bats during this period of their active season. The fecal analyses are not expected to be complete prior to Spring 2005, but a report will be furnished to the park upon completion.

Site: Beaver Pond, Starling Gulch

Date Worked: 14-16 August 2004

<u>Species</u>	<u>Common Name</u>	<u>Number Caught</u>	<u>Gender; Age class, reproductive condition</u>
<i>Eptesicus fuscus</i>	Big brown bat	6	1 Female; juvenile 5 Males; adult, scrotal
<i>Lasionycteris noctivagans</i>	Silver-haired bat	4	1 Female; juvenile 1 Female; adult, lactating 2 Males; adult, non-scrotal
<i>Myotis ciliolabrum</i>	Small-footed bat	2	2 Males; adult, non-scrotal
<i>Myotis lucifigus</i>	Little brown bat	13	7 Males; adult, scrotal 6 Males; adult, non-scrotal
<i>Myotis septentrionalis</i>	Northern long-eared myotis	6	1 Female; juvenile 4 Females; adult, lactating 1 Male; juvenile
<i>Myotis volans</i>	Long-legged myotis	1	1 Male; adult, scrotal

TOTAL = 32 bats